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C E I R I O G R U R A L D I S T R I C T

C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

J.Gareth M.Williams, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

including

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

S.A. Hughes, M.A.P.H.I.

FOR THE

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969.

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28/12/70

C E I R I O G R U R A L D I S T R I C T
C O U N C I L

A N N U A L R E P O R T
1969.

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the Ceiriog Rural District Council for the year ended 31st December, 1969. As usual, I would wish to express my sincere personal thanks to all my fellow Officers for their continued kindness and co-operation throughout the year. I am also equally grateful to the Chairman and Members of the Council.

J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

C Y N G O R D O S B A R T H G W L E D I G
C E I R I O G

A D R O D D I A D B L Y N Y D D O L
1969.

Mae'n anrhydedd gennyf gyflwyno fy Adroddiad Blynyddol ar Iechyd ac Ystadegau Bywydol Cyngor Dosbarth Gweledig Ceiriog am y flwyddyn a ddaeth i ben 31ain Rhagfyr, 1969.

Fel arfer, dymunaf fynegi fy niolch personol diffuant i'm holl gyd-swyddogion am eu caredigrwydd parhaol a'u cydweithrediad drwy gydol y flwyddyn. Rwyf hefyd yn llawn mor ddiolchgar i Gadeirydd ac Aelodau'r Cyngor.

J. GARETH M. WILLIAMS
SWYDDOG MEDDYGOL.

POPULATION. The Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population was 7110 - a decrease of 30 as compared with 1968.

BIRTHS. The total number of live births was 104 (57 males, 47 females) a decrease of 23 on the 1968 figure. This, of course, follows three successive years when an increase was recorded. In England and Wales generally the trend since 1964 has been for the total births and the birth rate to fall steadily, and this fall has been continued this year.

Included in this total are 9 illegitimate births (9 also in 1968).

BIRTH RATE. (Comparability factor 1.12)

The Crude birth rate was 14.6 births per 1000 mid-year population. When this is adjusted by means of the comparability factor, for comparison with England Wales generally, this comes to 16.4, which is slightly higher than the England and Wales rate of 16.3.

STILL BIRTHS. Two still births occurred during the year, as compared to a nil return in 1968.

DEATHS. The total number of deaths was 85 (55 males, 30 females) as compared with 106 in 1968; 87 in 1967, and 94 in 1966.

An analysis of the causes of death shows that 52 were due to diseases of the heart and circulation generally, this similar to the pattern that is reflected all over England and Wales, where over half the deaths have been due to this cause.

The second most prevalent cause was cancer, which accounted for 13 deaths. This is considerably lower than in 1968, when 24 cancer deaths were recorded. In 1967 11 deaths were recorded.

The third largest category as in most years was due to diseases of the Respiratory System, which this year accounted for seven deaths, as compared with 14 for the previous year.

It will be seen that the above three categories are responsible for 72 of the 85 deaths. The remaining 13 this year included deaths due to intestinal causes, kidney disease and tuberculosis, two deaths were in fact due to this last cause, which, as most people know, used to be one of the most prevalent causes of death in Great Britain.

DEATH RATE. (Comparability Factor 1.01)

The crude death rate was 12.0 per 1000 mid-year population. When adjusted for comparison with England and Wales generally this comes to 12.1, which is slightly higher than the England and Wales figure of 11.9.

INFANT DEATHS. There were two deaths under the age of one year (3 in 1968). This gives an Infantile Mortality rate of 19.0. per 1000 live births. The England and Wales figure was 18.0.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES. Notifications totalled 20 for the year, this included 15 cases of measles, one of scarlet fever, two cases of Lepto-spirosis and two cases of Tuberculosis (one pulmonary and one non-pulmonary). In 1968 two cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were notified.

IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION:-

1. DIPHTHERIA, WHOOPING COUGH AND TETANUS:-

Year of Birth	Diphtheria		Whooping Cough		Tetanus	
	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster	Primary	Booster
1969	1	-	1	-	1	-
1968	32	22	32	22	32	22
1967	2	55	2	48	2	54
1966	-	5	-	4	-	5
1962-65	2	91	-	3	2	91
1952-61	2	91	-	-	3	54
TOTALS	39	264	35	77	40	226

2. POLIOMYELITIS:-

Year of Birth	Primary	Boosters
1969	1	All ages 165
1968	59	
1967	6	
1966	-	
1962-65	2	
1952-61	-	
TOTAL	68.	

3. SMALLPOX:-

Age	Primary Vaccination	Re-Vaccination
1 year	32	-
2-4 years	13	-
5-15 years	-	1
16 years and over	-	3
TOTALS	45	4

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4. MEASLES:- The total number of Measles Vaccinations given during the year was 25. It will be remembered that the Measles Vaccination programme instituted during 1968 had to be discontinued in 1969 as the vaccine was withdrawn from circulation for extensive retesting.

CHIROPODY SERVICE:-

CLINIC	Number on Register at 31/12/69	Number of Sessions held in 1969.	Number of Treatments given.	Total Attend-ances.	Number on Waiting list at 31/12/69
CHIRK	70	45	308	268	Nil.
GLYN CEIRIOG	39	10	61	51	Nil.
LLANRHAEADR Y.M.	29	10	63	45	Nil.
TOTALS	138	65	432	364	

C E I R I O G R U R A L D I S T R I C T
C O U N C I L

ANNUAL REPORT, 1969

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am pleased to present to you my report on the Public Health Inspector and Surveyor's Department of the Council during my first full year in this Office.

My thanks to the staff of my department who, through great difficulties, have given great effort and service throughout the year, and to my Colleagues on the Staff, especially to your Clerk and Treasurer for their help and support, and to yourselves for the kindness and consideration given to me during this period.

I am,

Your obedient servant.

S. A. HUGHES

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR

HOUSING DEVELOPMENT:-

CORONATION DRIVE, RHOSYWAUN. Thisnew development,which provides four dwelling houses and 28 flats, was completed at the beginning of the year, and the dwellings were occupied by the remaining tenants of the Phase I Redevelopment Site at Bronywaun.

CAE'R YSGOL GLYN CEIRIOG. Tenants moved into this new housing development in the middle of the year. The accommodation consists of 4 two bedroom houses, 6 two bedroom bungalows and 6 two bedroom flats. These dwellings are all centrally heated by 'Electricaire' and as these are the first in the district, it will be interesting to see how tenants 'take' to this change.

Y BERLLAN,LLANGEDWYN. The 4 two bedroom houses and 4 two bedroom bungalows were completed and occupied in August of the year. These dwellings have solid fuel open grate heating appliances, which provide both hot water and a measure of central heating.

COLLIERY ROAD, CHIRK,STAGE I. The removal of 19 Aluminium Bungalows on this site allowed building work to start in May. The development provides 36 dwellings, of which 12 will be 2 bedroom flats, 14 two bedroom houses, and 10 three bedroom houses. These dwellings will be provided with 'Electricaire' central heating.

HALTON. During the year the final preparations were made for the erection of 50 dwellings at Halton. Unfortunately, due to matters out of the Council's control, it was not possible to make a start on the building operations.

ELECTRICAL IMPROVEMENTS

The work on the electrical installation improvements in pre-war houses in the district did not proceed as quickly as anticipated. However, the houses in'Old'Rhosywaun were completed. This leaves the dwellings in 'Old'Bronywaun,Chirk, and Wernfadog, Pontfadog, to be attended to.

HOUSING ACT, 1957.

During the year good progress was made in the field of Slum Clearance. Numbers 1 to 50 Halton Terrace were declared a Clearance Area under Section 42 of this Act, and action was taken in connection with 15 dwellings in the Ceiriog Valley Area.

The Council also decided to take action with regard to Nos. 1/70 Chirk Green,Chirk, and negotiations are under way.

These positive moves in this field are most welcome and I am pleased to be associated with such work,as I feel decent homes are a priority in helping to upgrade the social standards of the area.

Although instructions were given for Stent Cottages, Llansilin, to be demolished by the Council, the owner of the property finally engaged contractors to carry out this work.

HOUSING ACT, 1964 and HOUSING ACT, 1969.

During the year the Housing Act, 1969 came into being, superceding the Act of 1964, and making alterations to the improvement grants schemes and rent control.

As far as this authority is concerned the effect is as follows:-

STANDARD GRANTS:- The maximum grant payable towards the cost of the provision of the basic amenities in a dwelling is increased from £155 to £200. The 'food store' as a basic amenity has been replaced by a kitchen sink with hot and cold water. W hen it is necessary to build a bathroom, a septic tank and bring a cold water supply to the dwelling for the first time the grant is subject to an overall maximum of £450. instead of the normal £200.

DISCRETIONARY GRANTS:- The maximum grant available under this section is now increased from £400 to £1,000. By doing this, it has been recognised that building costs have increased considerably over the years. Some new items which can be grant aided have also been introduced, i.e. where works of repair or replacement are either incidental to some other improvement, or which are needed, in the Council's opinion, for the purpose of making some other improvement fully effective.

It is anticipated that by the introduction of this new legislation more and more house owners will avail themselves of the grants available and thus improve the housing stock of the Country.

RENTS:- The Housing Act, 1969, introduces a new system governing the rents of privately rented dwellings,which have been brought up to a satisfactory standard, where a house which is subject to a Controlled Tenancy is provided with all the standard amenities, is in good repair and is fit for habitation, the tenancy may be converted to a Regulated Tenancy. To secure this change the landlord has to apply to the Council for a Qualification Certificate as to it's condition. If the house does not comply with the specified conditions but the landlord gives details in his application of the work which he proposes to carry out, the Council may grant a provisional certificate. A fair rent can then be fixed by the appropriate Rent Officer.

During the year 9 applications were approved by the Council. These being 6 Standard Grant applications and 3 Improvement Grant Applications, the total amount in grants being £3,615.

HOUSING REPAIR ACCOUNT. The Council owned and maintained 930 dwellings up to the end of the year and the following table shows the expenditure:-

No.of houses	To credit Repairs A/C.	To debit Repairs A/C.	Average cost per house.
930	£14,230.	£11,303.	£12. 3. 0.

The number of repairs dealt with, excluding repainting work, was 1170.

The number of employees engaged on housing maintenance is as follows:-

Joiner	-	1
Bricklayer	-	1
Labourer	-	1
Plumber & Water Works Attendants	-	2
Apprentice Plumber	-	1 (part year only)
Painters	-	2
Apprentice Painter	-	1

CARAVAN SITES AND CONTROL OF DEVELOPMENT ACTS, 1960 and 1969.

To the end of the year there were 16 licensed caravan sites in the district, involving a total of 28 caravans.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Councils new sewage disposal works at Rhosywaun were completed during the year and was put into operation in January. I am very pleased indeed with the quality of the effluent which this new plant has produced from the beginning and this is borne out by the excellent results obtained from samples of the effluent taken by the Pollution Prevention Officer of the Dee and Clwyd River Authority.

Plants in the other parishes of the district are functioning satisfactorily and by the use of the irrigation unit more regular maintenance is achieved.

SEPTIC TANK EMPTYING SCHEME. During the year 142 septic tanks have been emptied in the district. This compares to 114 tanks, which were emptied during 1967 in the same district.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES. The new public toilets built at the Waterfalls, Llanrhaeadr Y.M. were opened to the public at Easter. They provide a much needed service to tourists and sightseers at this beauty spot.

It was decided during the year that 'no charge' would be made for the use of Public Toilet facilities and consequently all coin locks have been removed.

Vandalism is a curse which affects all public buildings of this sort and despite efforts to maintain facilities in these places, in a number of cases fitments have been broken or damaged beyond repair.

WATER SUPPLIES. The Council remains one of the few local authorities that is also a Water Authority. Members from the Staff of the Welsh Office attended a Council Meeting during the year and indicated that the Government policy would be to see that small water undertakings were amalgamated with larger ones. This takes the Council back to the position of several years ago, when a start was made in the negotiations for the Council's Water supplies to be taken over by the Wrexham & East Denbighshire Water Company. The Council decided that they would open negotiations with the Water Company again in this respect.

REFUSE COLLECTION:- The Council resolved towards the end of the year to bring all refuse collections throughout the district on to a weekly footing. This entailed the purchase of a new refuse vehicle, and the introduction of a bonus scheme for the employees engaged in this service. The scheme is working satisfactorily and will prove most beneficial to those areas where previously a fortnightly or monthly service operated.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS:- The following inspection were carried out during the year:-

Housing	1027
Water Supplies	352
Sewerage & Sewage Dis.	220
Meat Inspections	87
Building Regulations	477
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.	27
Public Health	51
Infectious Diseases	38
Miscellaneous	170.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963.

The following table shows the particulars of Offices and Shops registered with the Council:-

REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during year.
Offices	Nil	7	2
Retail Shops	1	27	12
Wholesale Shops, Warehouses	Nil	Nil	Nil
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens.	Nil	5	1
Fuel storage depots.	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTALS	1	39	15
TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES UNDER THE ACT.			27

It was necessary to draw the attention of occupiers and/or owners to contraventions in 12 cases under this act.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES AND MEAT INSPECTIONS.

There are two licensed slaughterhouses in the district. A total of 968 animals were killed and were inspected and stamped in accordance with the Meat Inspection Regulations.

The number of animals slaughtered showed a reduction of 1537 compared to the year 1968, and 1582 in 1967, but an increase over the total for 1966 of 182. The outbreak of Foot and Mouth Disease at the latter part of 1967 and the beginning of 1968 being the cause of the increased throughput, animals being slaughtered in the district for distribution in the South of England.

CARCASES INSPECTION AND CONDEMNED	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS	PIGS
Number killed	55	10	4	807	92
Number not inspected	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci					
Whole carcases condemned	NIL	1	1	7	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	19	8	2	73	9
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED	CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS	COWS	CALVES	SHEEP AND LAMBS.	PIGS
Cysticerci Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Carcases submitted to refrigeration	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Generalised and totally condemned	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

It was necessary to withhold the licence of one slaughterhouse for several months due to unsatisfactory standards being maintained therein.

POULTRY INSPECTION. The establishment where poultry were slaughtered for consumption changed ownership and this part of the business was discontinued.

UNSOUND FOOD. During the year 11cwts.47lbs. of food were surrendered to the Department as unfit for human consumption and concerned meat and offal condemned as unfit during meat inspection visits.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955.

ICE-CREAM PREMISES. Only one application was received and approved again this year for the sale and storage of ice-cream

FOOD. During the year two complaints of unsound food were received relative to milk and other food and dealt with by the Department.

BUILDING REGULATIONS,1965. Throught the year 67 applications were approved by the Council under the above regulations and a total of 477 visits and inspections were made to new works in progress during the 12 months.

TOWN & COUNTRY PLANNING ACT, 1962. 85 applications were received by the Council for permission to develop land in the district. The Denbighshire County Council as Planning Authority had to determine the application but these also received consideration by this Council and recommended observations were sent to the County Planning Officer.

CLEAN AIR ACT,1956. An application for the installation of a furnance was received and approved during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961. Inspections were made as follows under the provisions of the above Act:-

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER ON REGISTER (2)	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS (3)	WRITTEN NOTICES (4)	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED (5)
(i) Factories in which Sect.1.2.3.4.&6 are to be enforced by local authorities.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec.7 is enforced by the local authority.	35	21	Nil	Nil

PREMISES (1)	NUMBER ON REGISTER (2)	NUMBER OF INSPECTIONS (3)	WRITTEN NOTICES (4)	OCCUPIERS PROSECUTED (5)
Continued B/F	35	21	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL	35	21	Nil	Nil

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND:-

PARTICULARS (1)	No. of Cases in which defects found: Found (2)	Remedied (3)	No. of cases in which prosecutions were instructed: Referred to H.M. Inspector. (4)	By H.M. Inspector (5) (6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1) Overcrowding (S.2) Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.) Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) Insufficient drainage of floors (S.6.)	N	I	L	N I L
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) (a) Insufficient (b) Unsuitable or defective. (c) Not separate for sexes. Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	N	I	L	N I L

I am very happy to report here that the two new factories recently built in Chirk were in production during the year. Messrs. Cadbury Bros. Factory for the processing of cocoa beans and the manufacture of chocolate products was in full production by the middle of the year. The number of men and women employed by the Company were given as 141 men and 39 women employed at the end of the year.

Messrs. Sel-Rex (U.K.) Ltd., who produce chemicals and plant for the electro-plating industry, moved into their new premises at Rhosywaun, Chirk, in November of the year and the number of employees engaged by this Company at the end of year were 64 men and 20 women.

These two concerns have greatly improved the prospects for the district, and let us hope that they will be the forerunners of more industries into the area.